

Appl. No. 10/042,822  
Amdt. dated April 8, 2005  
Reply to Office Action of January 11, 2005

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**Amendments to the Claims**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Claims 1-35 (Cancelled)**

**Claim 36 (Currently Amended):** A method for producing an absorbent web having a dry feel when wet comprising the steps of:

- a) preparing an inherently hydrophilic basesheet comprising papermaking fibers and having an upper surface and a lower surface, said upper surface having a surface area and having elevated and depressed regions; and
- b) depositing hydrophobic matter preferentially on the elevated regions of the upper surface of said basesheet,

wherein said basesheet has a Wet Compressed Bulk of about 5 cc/g or greater.

**Claim 37 (Original):** The method of claim 36, wherein said step of preparing the basesheet comprises the steps of depositing an aqueous slurry of papermaking fibers on a foraminous web to produce an embryonic web; molding said web on a three-dimensional substrate; and drying said web.

**Claims 38-39 (Cancelled)**

**Claim 40 (Previously Presented):** The method of claim 36 wherein said basesheet is a wet-laid tissue sheet.

**Claim 41 (Previously Presented):** The method of claim 36 wherein said web is an air laid structure.

**Claim 42 (Previously Presented):** The method of claim 36 wherein the hydrophobic matter is discontiguous.

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**Claim 43 (Currently Amended):** The method of claim 36 wherein said hydrophobic matter comprises synthetic fibers fixedly attached to the upper surface of said basesheet such that about 50% or less of the surface area of the basesheet upper surface is covered with the synthetic fibers.

**Claim 44 (Previously Presented):** The method of claim 36 further comprising hydrophobic matter on a portion of the lower surface of said basesheet.

**Claim 45 (Previously Presented):** The method of claim 36 wherein said elevated regions comprise from 5 to 300 protrusions per square inch having a characteristic height of at least 0.2 mm relative to said depressed regions.

**Claim 46 (Previously Presented):** The method of claim 36 wherein at least 30% of the upper surface of said basesheet remains substantially free of hydrophobic matter and said web has a Rewet value of 0.6 g or less.

**Claim 47 (Currently Amended):** The method of claim 36 wherein essentially all of said hydrophobic matter resides above the a 50% material line of a characteristic cross-section of said web.

**Claim 48 (Previously Presented):** The method of claim 36 wherein the superficial basis weight of said hydrophobic matter is from about 1 to about 10 gsm and said basesheet has a basis weight of from about 10 to about 70 gsm.